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Ethiopia

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies and special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and in other relevant official United Nations documents. It is presented in a summarized manner due to word-limit constraints. For the full text, please refer to the document referenced. This report does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of OHCHR other than those contained in public reports and statements issued by the Office. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review and developments during that period.

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Please recycle

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations[1]

International human rights treaties[2]

	Status during previous cycle	*Action after review*	*Not ratified/not accepted*
Ratification, accession or succession	ICERD (1976) ICESCR (1993) ICCPR (1993) CEDAW (1981) CAT (1994) CRC (1991)	OP-CRC-AC (signature only, 2010) CRPD (2010)	ICCPR-OP 2 OP-CAT OP-CRC-AC OP-CRC-SC ICRMW CPED
Reservations, declarations and/or understandings	CEDAW (reservation, art. 29(1), 1981)		
Complaint procedures, inquiry and urgent action[3]	CAT, art. 20 (1994)		ICERD, art. 14 OP-ICESCR ICCPR, art. 41 ICCPR-OP 1 OP-CEDAW CAT, arts. 21 and 22 OP-CRC-IC ICRMW OP-CRPD CPED

Other main relevant international instruments[4]

	Status during previous cycle	*Action after review*	*Not ratified*
Ratification, accession or succession	Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide Conventions on refugees[5] Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols I and II[6] ILO fundamental conventions[7]	Palermo Protocol[8]	Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court Conventions on stateless persons[9] UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education ILO Conventions Nos. 169 and 189[10] Additional Protocol III to the 1949 Geneva Conventions[11]

1. In 2012, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) encouraged Ethiopia to consider signing and ratifying OP-ICESCR.[12]

2. The Human Rights Committee (HR Committee), in 2011, and the Committee against Torture (CAT), in 2010, urged Ethiopia to consider ratifying ICCPR-OP 1 and ICCPR-OP 2.[13]

3. In 2011, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) urged Ethiopia to consider ratifying OP-CEDAW.[14]

4. CAT recommended that Ethiopia consider ratifying OP-CAT and making declarations under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention.[15]

5. CAT invited Ethiopia to ratify ICRMW, CPED, OP-ICESCR, OP-CEDAW, OP-CRC-IC, OP-CRC-AC, and OP-CRPD.[16] CEDAW encouraged Ethiopia to ratify ICRMW and CPED.[17]

6. The HR Committee, CAT and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) invited Ethiopia to ratify the Conventions on Statelessness.[18]

7. The HR Committee and UNHCR invited Ethiopia to ratify the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (2009).[19]

8. CAT recommended that Ethiopia consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.[20]

9. UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia lift the reservations made to articles 17 to 19 (on wage-earning employment, self-employment and liberal professions) of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.[21]

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

10. CEDAW called on Ethiopia to ensure that all regional states adopt family laws in conformity with the Federal Family Code and the Convention and to enable public officials to effectively enforce the revised Family Code, in particular with respect to the equal right of women and men to freely enter into marriage, the equal rights and responsibilities of

spouses during marriage and its dissolution, and the minimum age for marriage of 18 years.[22]

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

Status of national human rights institutions[23]

National human rights institution	*Status during previous cycle*	*Status during present cycle*[24]
Ethiopian Human Rights Commission	No status	B (2013)

11. The United Nations country team (UNCT) in Ethiopia indicated that a National Human Rights Action Plan had been adopted by Parliament in June 2013.[25]

12. Several treaty bodies welcomed the establishment of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC), but noted that it was not yet compliant with the Paris Principles.[26] CAT urged Ethiopia to strengthen the Commission's role and mandate.[27]

13. UNCT stated that, by 2013, EHRC had opened six branches in the regions and 126 legal aid centres, while the Ethiopian Institution of the Ombudsman had opened five branch offices.[28] UNCT indicated, however, that an assessment by EHRC showed the need to strengthen its own staff capacities and competencies in various areas of responsibility and to improve internal accountability, policy development and strategic planning.[29]

II. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

A. Cooperation with treaty bodies[30]

1. Reporting status

Treaty body	*Concluding observations included in previous review*	*Latest report submitted since previous review*	*Latest concluding observations*	*Reporting status*
CERD	Aug. 2009	–	–	Seventeenth to nineteenth reports overdue since July 2013
CESCR	–	2009	May 2012	Fourth report due in 2017
HR Committee	–	2009	July 2011	Second report due in July 2014
CEDAW	Jan. 2004	2009	July 2011	Eighth report due in 2015
CAT	–	2009	Nov. 2010	Second report due in December 2014
CRC	Sept. 2006	2012	–	Fourth and fifth reports pending consideration
CRPD	–	2013	–	Initial report pending consideration

2. Responses to specific follow-up requests by treaty bodies

Concluding observations

Treaty body	*Due in*	*Subject matter*	*Submitted in*
CERD	2010	Role of civil society; translation of the Convention into the Federation's languages; and integration of human rights education into school curricula.[31]	–
HR Committee	2012	Allegations of human rights violations; allegations of torture; right to freedom of assembly and association.[32]	Follow-up ongoing.[33]
CEDAW	2013	Female genital mutilation and violence against women; rural women.[34]	Follow-up ongoing.[35]
CAT	2011	Protection of forensic physicians and other human rights defenders; abuse and refoulement of asylum-seekers; violence and abuse against children.[36]	Follow-up ongoing.[37]

14. UNCT stated that Ethiopia had prepared and submitted several overdue reports to treaty bodies.[38]

B. Cooperation with special procedures[39]

	Status during previous cycle	*Current status*
Standing invitation	No	No
Visits undertaken	Food	Eritrea
	Minorities	
Visits agreed to in principle		
Visits requested	Freedom of opinion and expression	Foreign debt
	Right to education	Freedom of association and assembly
	WGAD	WGAD
	Torture	Torture
	Foreign debt	
	SUMEX	
Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals	During the period under review 16 communications were sent. The Government replied to six of those communications.	

15. CAT recommended that Ethiopia strengthen its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, including by permitting visits of the special procedures mandate holders.[40]

C. Cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

16. Ethiopia is covered by the OHCHR Regional Office for East Africa (EARO) in Addis Ababa. In 2010, EARO provided technical support to EHRC for the establishment of an interministerial committee to develop a national human rights action plan.[41]

III. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Equality and non-discrimination

17. The HR Committee was concerned about significant discrepancies in the improvement of the situation of women in the different regions. It recommended that Ethiopia continue to increase their access to employment, public life, education, housing and health.[42]

18. CEDAW urged Ethiopia to ensure equality between women and men in family relations.[43] It also recommended that Ethiopia adopt measures to eliminate any discrimination against the most vulnerable and neglected groups of women, including older women, women with disabilities, pastoralist women and refugees and internally displaced women.[44]

19. CESCR was concerned that ethnic groups continued to suffer from discrimination in the exercise of their right to participate fully in cultural life. It recommended that Ethiopia further strengthen necessary measures to ensure equal treatment for all ethnic groups and implement the relevant recommendations made by the Independent Expert on minority issues.[45]

20. CESCR recommended that Ethiopia adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination bill and amend the Penal Code to decriminalize homosexuality; combat and prevent discrimination and societal stigma, in particular against persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals and persons belonging to marginalized and disadvantaged groups.[46] The HR Committee made similar recommendations.[47]

21. UNCT stated that stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV was still prevalent.[48]

B. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

22. While acknowledging the de facto moratorium on the death penalty, the HR Committee recommended that Ethiopia consider abolishing the death penalty; ensure that, if imposed, it was only for the most serious crimes and in compliance with the Covenant; consider commuting all death sentences; and ensure legal safeguards for persons tried in absentia.[49] CAT made similar recommendations.[50]

23. CAT recommended that Ethiopia include torture as an offence in its Criminal Code and incorporate a definition of torture that covered all of the elements contained in article 1 of the Convention.[51]

24. CAT was gravely concerned about numerous allegations of extrajudicial killings by security forces and the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF), particularly in the

Somali, Oromia and Gambella Regional States, of civilians alleged to be members of armed insurgent groups. It was also gravely concerned at reports about large numbers of disappearances, the widespread practice of arrest without a warrant, and arbitrary and prolonged detention without charge or judicial process of suspected members or supporters of insurgent groups and political opposition members.[52] The HR Committee raised similar concerns.[53]

25. The HR Committee and CAT noted with concern numerous reports suggesting that torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment were widespread and used against detainees by the police, prison officers and the military, especially with regard to alleged members of armed insurgent groups active in Somali and Oromia regions.[54] CAT was also deeply concerned about consistent allegations concerning the routine use of torture against political dissidents and opposition party members, students, alleged terrorist suspects and alleged supporters of insurgent groups such as the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) and the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF).[55]

26. CAT recommended that Ethiopia establish a dedicated, independent and effective complaint mechanism to receive and ensure investigations into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment committed by law enforcement, security, military and prison officials.[56] CAT also recommended that Ethiopia ensure that confessions obtained under torture were not admitted in court proceedings.[57]

27. The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteur on Torture sent a communication with regard to the ill-treatment of an opposition leader by prison inmates, allegedly at the instigation of the prison authorities. According to the information received, a young opposition leader from the Unity for Democracy and Justice Party had been severely beaten by inmates while in custody in an unknown prison.[58]

28. CAT was seriously concerned that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had no access to ordinary detention centres and prisons and had been expelled from the Somali Regional State in 2007. CAT called upon Ethiopia to establish an independent national system to monitor and inspect all places of deprivation of liberty; and grant ICRC and other independent international mechanisms access to those places, including in the Somali Regional State.[59] The HR Committee made similar recommendations.[60]

29. CAT urged Ethiopia to promptly investigate all incidents of death in custody.[61]

30. CAT remained seriously concerned about reports of poor detention conditions, including overcrowding; hygiene, food and water; and co-detention of juveniles with adults and their inadequate protection from violence.[62] The HR Committee raised similar concerns.[63]

31. Several treaty bodies were concerned about reports of rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls allegedly committed in particular in the Somali Regional State.[64]

32. Several treaty bodies urged Ethiopia to prevent and eradicate female genital mutilation (FGM) and other harmful traditional practices.[65] CEDAW urged Ethiopia to amend the Criminal Code to increase penalties for FGM.[66] Several treaty bodies also urged Ethiopia to amend its Criminal Code to criminalize marital rape.[67]

33. CESCR and CEDAW urged Ethiopia to combat, prevent and eliminate child labour, and adopt targeted measures to ensure that children without parental care and children from disadvantaged and marginalized families were not engaged in child labour.[68]

34. CESCR noted with concern the high level of child abuse, in particular sexual abuse. It was also concerned that corporal punishment was lawful in the home and in alternative care settings. It recommended that Ethiopia take urgent steps to combat child abuse and

neglect and amend its Criminal Code and Family Code to prohibit corporal punishment.[69] CAT made similar recommendations.[70]

35. Noting with concern that a large number of children continued to live on the street, CESCR recommended that Ethiopia address the root causes of the issue.[71]

36. Several treaty bodies remained concerned about the prevalence of trafficking in women and children. They urged Ethiopia to combat that phenomenon, to prosecute and punish perpetrators, and to put in place programmes to support the human rights of the victims.[72] UNHCR also made similar recommendations.[73]

C. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

37. CAT expressed concern about reports of frequent interference by the executive branch with the judicial process, in particular in criminal proceedings, and reported cases of harassment, threats, intimidation and dismissal of judges resisting political pressure. CAT urged Ethiopia to ensure the full independence and impartiality of the judiciary, in conformity with international standards.[74]

38. The HR Committee and CAT remained concerned that the time for the transportation of an arrested person to a judge was not included in the rule that required that an arrested person be presented before a judge within 48 hours.[75]

39. The HR Committee was also concerned that the provision of free legal aid had been seriously impeded by the restrictions imposed on non-governmental organizations (NGOs) by the Proclamation to Provide for the Registration and Regulation of Charities and Societies No. 621/2009 (Charities and Societies Proclamation).[76]

40. The HR Committee noted with concern that a statute totally precluded the possibility of appealing a conviction based on a guilty plea. Ethiopia should amend its statute to recognize, within appropriate limits, the right of persons convicted of a criminal offence after a guilty plea to appeal both the sentence and the conviction.[77]

41. CAT noted with concern that the jurisdiction of sharia and customary law courts in family law matters might expose women victims of domestic or sexual violence to undue pressure by their husbands and families and to have their case adjudicated by customary or religious rather than ordinary courts.[78] The HR Committee and CEDAW raised similar concerns.[79]

42. CAT continued to be concerned at numerous and consistent reports about the lack of a full investigation of the arrest of 3,000 students at Addis Ababa University in April 2001; the prosecution of only a small number of low-ranking army officials involved in the killing, torture and rape of hundreds of Anuak in Gambella town in December 2003; the failure to investigate the subsequent killing, torture and rape of Anuak in the Gambella Regional State in 2004; the absence of an independent and impartial investigation of or prosecutions for the use of lethal force by members of the security forces during the post-election riots in 2005; and the lack of an independent and impartial investigation into the extrajudicial killings, torture, rape and other forms of sexual violence, as well as arbitrary arrests by ENDF during its counter-insurgency campaign against ONLF in the Somali Regional State in 2007.[80]

43. CAT was concerned that, under the revised Criminal Code, the age of criminal responsibility was 9 years and that offenders above the age of 15 years were subject to the ordinary penalties applicable to adults and could be kept in custody with adult criminals.[81]

D. Freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

44. The HR Committee was concerned at provisions of Proclamation on the Freedom of the Mass Media and Access to Information No. 590/2008, in particular the registration requirements for newspapers, the severe penalties for criminal defamation and the inappropriate application of that law in the combat against terrorism. It was also concerned by reports about the impossibility of accessing various foreign websites and radio stations. It recommended that Ethiopia revise its legislation to ensure that any limitations on the rights to freedom of expression are in strict compliance with the Covenant.[82] UNESCO also recommended that Ethiopia be encouraged to implement reforms to bring its laws and practices into line with international standards, including decriminalizing defamation and placing it in the Civil Code.[83]

45. UNESCO stated that there had been numerous reported cases of arrests and imprisonment of journalists, including the laureate of the UNESCO-Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.[84] UNESCO recommended that Ethiopia ensure that journalists and media workers were able to practise their profession in a free and safe environment, and investigate all attacks on journalists and media workers.[85]

46. The HR Committee was concerned that the Charities and Societies Proclamation prohibited Ethiopian NGOs from obtaining more than 10 per cent of their budget from foreign donors and engaging in human rights activities. It recommended that Ethiopia revise the legislation to ensure that any limitations on the right to freedom of association and assembly were in strict compliance with the Covenant; reconsider the funding restrictions on local NGOs; and authorize all NGOs to work in the field of human rights.[86]

47. In 2012, three special procedures mandate holders received information on alleged repeated restrictions to the freedom of association imposed on the Human Rights Council – Ethiopia (HRCO) and other organizations. According to the information received, in December 2009, the assets of HRCO, a prominent human rights organization, had been frozen by the Charities and Societies Agency, which was responsible for overseeing NGO activities. On 19 October 2012, the Supreme Court upheld the decision to freeze HRCO assets. On 27 October 2012, the Charities and Societies Agency announced that it had revoked the licences of 10 organizations and warned 400 other organizations that it said had been operating against rules and regulations of the country.[87]

48. CESCR and CEDAW were concerned about the freezing, under the Charities and Societies Proclamation, of the assets of the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association, previously the main local women's rights organization.[88]

49. CESCR urged Ethiopia to guarantee the right to form and/or join trade unions; conduct a full and independent inquiry into allegations of violation of teachers' trade union rights; and amend section 421 of the Criminal Code so as to remove the sentence of imprisonment for public servants who had gone on strike.[89]

50. In 2012, the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (ILO Committee of Experts) deplored that, more than three years after the request of the National Teachers' Association (NTA) for registration, the organization was still not registered, due to the Charities and Societies Proclamation. The ILO Committee of Experts strongly urged Ethiopia to take all necessary measures to ensure the registration of NTA without further delay so that teachers might fully exercise their right to form organizations of their own choosing.[90]

51. CEDAW noted with concern that no woman opposition candidate had been elected to the House of Peoples' Representatives at the 2010 national elections.[91] CEDAW

recommended that Ethiopia adopt temporary special measures, such as gender quotas; allocate greater funds for women candidates, including opposition candidates, in the public funding of election campaigns; and take affirmative action to increase the percentage of female judges, civil servants and diplomats.[92]

52. The HR Committee recommended that Ethiopia recognize the existence of the minorities in each regional state and ensure their adequate political representation and participation at regional state and federal levels.[93]

E. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

53. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Ethiopia 2012-2015 indicated that the growing rural-urban migration was contributing to rising urban unemployment.[94] CESCR recommended that Ethiopia reduce unemployment and enhance access to employment for the most disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups.[95]

54. CESCR recommended that Ethiopia take measures to regularize the situation of informal sector workers by progressively improving their working conditions and including them in social security schemes.[96]

55. CESCR recommended that Ethiopia take legislative and other measures to introduce a national minimum wage and ensure that the wage was periodically reviewed and set at a level sufficient to provide all workers and their families with a decent standard of living.[97]

56. CEDAW recommended that Ethiopia expand its policies aimed at creating income-generating opportunities for women; monitor and improve their working conditions in the private and informal sectors; and devise, adopt and implement a national social protection scheme covering, among others, informal sector workers, including women.[98]

F. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

57. CESCR was concerned that the levels of poverty and extreme poverty, especially in rural areas, remained high.[99] CESCR recommended that Ethiopia establish a universal social security system, and introduce legally established and periodically reviewed amounts of benefits, at a level sufficient to ensure an adequate standard of living for the population.[100]

58. UNDAF Ethiopia 2012-2015 indicated that women were generally the poorest. Furthermore, gains in reducing poverty had not yet translated into significant reductions in hunger or acute malnutrition.[101]

59. CESCR was concerned about the acute housing shortage; overcrowding; the poor quality of accommodation; the lack of basic services; and the high percentage of the urban population living in slums.[102]

60. CESCR was concerned about reports that the Voluntary Resettlement Program entailed the forced eviction of thousands of people in various regions. It urged Ethiopia to ensure that relocations were voluntary, following prior consultation; to provide adequate compensation or alternative accommodation to those people who had been forcibly evicted, and to guarantee that people living in relocation sites were provided with basic services and adequate facilities.[103]

61. CEDAW urged Ethiopia to enforce women's equal right to land ownership; facilitate rural women's access to credit and loans; ensure that land lease contracts with foreign

companies did not result in the forced eviction and internal displacement or the increased food insecurity and poverty of local populations.[104]

G. Right to health

62. CESCR recommended that Ethiopia take steps to address chronic food insecurity and malnutrition. It also urged Ethiopia to ensure that the population of the Somali National Regional State benefited from State-run food aid and rural development plans.[105]

63. CESCR was concerned that a large percentage of households in rural areas, as well as refugees living in camps, did not have ready access to safe drinking water and sanitation.[106] CEDAW raised similar concerns.[107]

64. CESCR was concerned that there was no universal health-care coverage and recommended that Ethiopia step up its efforts to improve health services, including through allocation of increased resources and measures to address significant rural and urban disparities in health-care provision.[108]

65. UNCT stated that, while Ethiopia had achieved MDG 4 (reducing child mortality), there had been no improvement in the maternal mortality rate since 2005.[109] CEDAW also remained concerned about the high maternal mortality rate (470 per 100,000 live births) due to obstetric complications; the low rate of skilled birth attendance (18 per cent) and the shortage of emergency obstetric services, especially in rural areas; low contraceptive use; the large number of unsafe abortions; and the large number of women living with HIV/AIDS.[110]

H. Right to education

66. CESCR was concerned that primary education was neither free nor compulsory. It was also concerned about low primary school enrolment and attendance rates. It recommended that Ethiopia take urgent measures to ensure that primary education was free and compulsory for all children, and that the age of completion of compulsory schooling be set at 14 years.[111] CEDAW raised similar concerns and recommendations.[112]

67. UNCT stated that girls were not benefiting to the same extent as boys when it came to accessing youth facilities, vocational training and university. It also indicated that more needed to be done to clarify the actions aimed at reducing disparities in the Afar and Somali regions in particular.[113]

I. Minorities and indigenous peoples

68. UNESCO indicated that there were marginalized communities that were unable to exercise their right to take part in cultural life. That situation was particularly predominant in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region and among the Waito community in Amhara region. Within the communities themselves, women were further discriminated against.[114]

69. In 2012, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples received allegations concerning agricultural development in the lower Omo valley associated with the construction of the Gilgel Gibe III hydroelectric project, as well as the Government's villagization programme. According to the information received, resettlement of indigenous agro-pastoralist groups was under way in the lower Omo valley and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region to make way for the Government's proposed development plans for the regions. The resettlement was reportedly part of the

Government's larger villagization programme instituted in at least four other regions. The villagization programme reportedly consisted of the relocation of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists and the shifting of cultivators into sedentary villages where they were supposedly provided with improved social services, housing and infrastructure. However, numerous concerns had been raised, including that the Government had failed to obtain the consent of affected indigenous groups prior to resettlement and the lack of services provided at resettlement sites.[115]

70. Concerning the Gilgel Gibe III hydroelectric project, CESCR also recommended that Ethiopia continue to identify and address the adverse social and environmental impact of the dam. In addition, it urged the State party to initiate, prior to construction of hydro-electric projects, comprehensive impact assessments and extensive consultations with affected communities.[116] In 2011, under its early warning and urgent action procedure, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) also raised concerns regarding the construction of the Gilgel Gibe III Dam.[117]

71. CERD also received information about a 50-year lease authorized by the Minister of Agriculture to a company on traditional forests belonging to Mazenger and other indigenous peoples of Gambella, who allegedly had not been consulted.[118] In 2013, CERD thanked Ethiopia for its reply dated 25 May 2012, and requested Ethiopia to provide updated and detailed information on the measures envisaged or implemented to address discrimination against those communities in the periodic report due on 23 July 2013.[119]

J. Migrants and refugees

72. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants raised a concern with regard to allegations that a repatriation agreement between Ethiopia and a third country might place the returnees at risk of human rights violations. Reportedly, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed on 26 January 2012 between Ethiopia and that third country concerning the return of Ethiopian nationals residing there did not provide any safeguards for the returnees. Furthermore, return may not be in the best interests of the children concerned.[120]

73. According to UNHCR, Ethiopia was hosting over 420,000 refugees at the end of October 2013.[121]

74. UNHCR remained concerned about the situation of unaccompanied and separated children in the north as well as female refugees who were victims of sexual and gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices, e.g. FGM.[122]

75. With regard to freedom of movement, UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia continue to allow refugees to move from refugee camps to urban or other areas and further expand the Out of Camp Policy to include refugees of all nationalities.[123] HR Committee made similar recommendations.[124]

76. UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia cooperate closely with UNHCR and partners to increase enrolment in primary- and secondary- level education in the refugee camps; continue to increase coordination between the government refugee agency (ARRA) and the Ministry of Education in order to attain coherent and quality education; and continue efforts to achieve that end.[125]

77. UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia allow refugees to have access to the labour market and become self-sufficient.[126]

78. UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia facilitate the naturalization of refugees married to Ethiopian nationals, in accordance with the Proclamation on Ethiopian Nationality, if they otherwise fulfilled the criteria set out in the relevant provisions.[127]

79. UNHCR stated that birth certificates were not issued for refugee newborns, birth notifications being provided instead. While useful, those notifications did not carry the same legal weight as birth certificates. UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia pursue efforts to strengthen the national registration system, including the birth registration of refugees, and ensure the issuance of birth certificates to refugees.[128] UNHCR also recommended that Ethiopia design strategies and adopt a national plan of action to identify and reduce statelessness and establish mechanisms at the national and regional levels to capture data about stateless individuals.[129]

K. Internally displaced persons

80. UNHCR stated that the magnitude of the internally displaced population was presumed to be relatively large, resulting from natural disasters, public projects, inter-ethnic conflict and clashes between the military and armed groups particularly in the Somali Regional State. UNHCR was concerned that the lack of a government counterpart and a national strategic framework for the internally displaced hampered targeted protection interventions and well-tailored technical support.[130]

81. UNHCR recommended that Ethiopia develop a strategy and national plan of action on internal displacement with the technical support of international and national partners and identify an entity within the government administration to be mandated to deal with the protection and assistance of IDPs.[131] HR Committee made similar recommendations.[132]

L. Human rights and counter-terrorism

82. The HR Committee regretted the unclear definition of certain offences in Anti-terrorism Proclamation No. 652/2009 and was concerned at the scope of some of its provisions. It recommended that Ethiopia ensure that its anti-terrorism legislation defined the nature of those acts with sufficient precision; and that its legislation was limited to crimes meriting the grave consequences associated with terrorism; and revise legislation that imposed undue restrictions on the exercise of rights under the Covenant.[133]

83. CAT was concerned that Anti-Terrorism Proclamation No. 652/2009 unduly restricted legal safeguards against torture and ill-treatment for persons suspected of or charged with a terrorist or related crime, in particular, by its broad definitions of incitement to terrorism and of terrorist acts and related crimes and the broad powers of the police to arrest suspects without a court warrant.[134]

84. CAT recommended that Ethiopia refrain from abducting terrorism suspects, under the pretext of fighting terrorism, from other countries where they might enjoy the protection of the Convention, and allow for an independent investigation into allegations of such abductions, in particular when followed by secret detention and torture in Ethiopia.[135]

85. In October 2011, seven special procedures mandate holders sent a letter to Ethiopia with regard to the alleged arrest, detention and charging under anti-terrorism legislation of journalists and opposition politicians.[136]

86. In October 2011, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances sent a letter to Ethiopia related to their joint study on global practices in relation to secret detention in the context of countering terrorism.[137] They invited Ethiopia to provide them with information on measures taken to investigate the allegations contained in the joint

study and, if they were found to be true, to rectify the situation in compliance with international human rights norms and standards; to implement the related recommendations; and to provide any other relevant information.[138]

87. In December 2011, five special procedures mandate holders sent a joint communication on terrorism-related charges, alleged detention and torture. According to information received, 24 individuals had been charged with terrorism-related offences on 10 November 2011. They followed similar charges raised in earlier urgent appeals. One journalist had allegedly told the court during the hearing on 10 November 2011 that he had been ill-treated in prison. He remained in detention along with 12 individuals. The other defendants were being tried in absentia.[139]

88. In December 2012, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights stated that she was seriously alarmed about the climate of intimidation of human rights defenders and journalists, resulting from the use of "overly broad" laws on terrorism and civil society registration. She was concerned about difficult conditions in pretrial detention and due process in the conduct of the various trials. She urged Ethiopia to review its anti-terrorism and civil society legislation, as well as the interpretation and application thereof by the courts, to ensure conformity with international human rights standards.[140]

Notes

[1] Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found on the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, http://treaties.un.org/. Please also refer to the United Nations compilation on Ethiopia from the previous cycle (A/HRC/WG.6/6/ETH/2).

[2] The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

[3] Individual complaints: ICCPR-OP 1, art. 1; OP-CEDAW, art. 1; OP-CRPD, art. 1; OP-ICESCR, art. 1; OP-CRC-IC, art. 5; ICERD, art. 14; CAT, art. 22; ICRMW, art. 77; and CPED, art. 31; Inquiry procedure: OP-CEDAW, art. 8; CAT, art. 20; CPED, art. 33; OP-CRPD, art. 6; OP-ICESCR, art. 11; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 13; Inter-State complaints: ICCPR, art. 41; ICRMW, art. 76; CPED, art. 32; CAT, art. 21; OP-ICESCR, art. 10; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 12; Urgent action: CPED, art. 30.

[4] Information relating to other relevant international human rights instruments, including regional instruments, may be found in the pledges and commitments undertaken by Ethiopia before the Human Rights Council, as contained in the letter dated 18 October 2012 sent by the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/67/532).

[5] 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.

[6] Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

[7] International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the

Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

[8] Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

[9] 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

[10] International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and Convention No. 189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers.

[11] Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III).

[12] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 29.

[13] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 5; CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 19; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 39.

[14] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 44.

[15] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, paras. 37-38.

[16] Ibid., para. 39.

[17] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 49.

[18] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 13; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 19; UNHCR submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 7.

[19] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 14; UNHCR submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 4.

[20] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 40.

[21] UNHCR submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 5.

[22] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 15.

[23] According to article 5 of the rules of procedure for the International Coordination Committee (ICC) Sub-Committee on Accreditation, the different classifications for accreditation used by the Sub-Committee are: A: Voting Member (fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles), B: Non-Voting Member (not fully in compliance with each of the Paris Principles or insufficient information provided to make a determination), C: No Status (not in compliance with the Paris Principles).

[24] For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordination Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/23/28, annex.

[25] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 1.

[26] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 6; CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 6; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 25.

[27] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 25.

[28] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 1.

[29] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 2.

[30] The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
HR Committee	Human Rights Committee
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CAT	Committee against Torture
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child
CRPD	Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

[31] CERD/C/ETH/CO/7-16, para. 30.

[32] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 28.

[33] Letters from HR Committee to the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia dated 24 May 2013, available from: tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=423&Lang=en.

[34] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 50.

[35] Letter from CEDAW to the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia, dated 15 November 2013, available from: tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/ETH/INT_CEDAW_FUL_ETH_15769_E.pdf.

[36] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 28.
[37] Letter from CAT to the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia dated 1 December 2011, available from: tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CAT/Shared%20Documents/ETH/INT_CAT_FUR_ETH_12336_E.pdf.
[38] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 3.
[39] For the titles of special procedures, see www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Themes.aspx and www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Countries.aspx.
[40] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 36.
[41] OHCHR Report 2011, p. 224.
[42] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 7.
[43] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 41.
[44] Ibid., para. 39.
[45] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 27.
[46] Ibid., para. 8.
[47] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 12.
[48] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 9.
[49] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 19.
[50] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 24.
[51] Ibid., para. 9.
[52] Ibid., para. 15.
[53] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 16.
[54] Ibid., para. 17; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 11.
[55] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 10.
[56] Ibid., para. 18.
[57] Ibid. para. 31.
[58] A/HRC/21/49, p. 10
[59] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 13.
[60] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 23.
[61] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 29.
[62] Ibid., para. 26.
[63] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 23.
[64] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 16; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 22-23; CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 16.
[65] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 10; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 32; E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 14; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 18-19.
[66] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 21 (a).
[67] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 8; E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 14; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 32; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 21 (a).
[68] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 15; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 32 (g) and 33 (h).
[69] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 18.
[70] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 28.
[71] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 17.
[72] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 11; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 33; E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 16; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 24-25.
[73] UNHCR submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 6.
[74] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 22.
[75] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 20; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 12.
[76] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 20; CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 34.
[77] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 21.
[78] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 23.
[79] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 22; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 42-43.
[80] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 17.
[81] Ibid, para. 27.
[82] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 24.
[83] UNESCO submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, para. 42.
[84] UNESCO submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, para. 34.
[85] UNESCO submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, para. 45.
[86] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 25.

[87] A/HRC/22/67, p. 150.
[88] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 7; CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 28-29.
[89] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 12.
[90] ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Observation concerning Convention No. 87, Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize, – Ethiopia, adopted 2012, published 102nd ILC session (2013), available from: www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:3084387:YES.
[91] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 26.
[92] Ibid., para. 27.
[93] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 26.
[94] UNDAF 2012-2015, Ethiopia, p. 8.
[95] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 9.
[96] Ibid., para. 10.
[97] Ibid., para. 11.
[98] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 33.
[99] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 19.
[100] Ibid., para. 13.
[101] UNDAF, Ethiopia, p. 9.
[102] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 20.
[103] Ibid., para. 21.
[104] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 37.
[105] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 22.
[106] Ibid., para. 23.
[107] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, paras. 36-37 (d).
[108] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 25.
[109] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 8.
[110] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 34.
[111] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 26.
[112] CEDAW/C/ETH/CO/6-7, para. 31 (a).
[113] UNCT submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 4.
[114] UNESCO submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, para. 27.
[115] A/HRC/22/67, p. 126.
[116] E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3, para. 24.
[117] Letter from CERD to the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia dated 2 September 2011, available from: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/early_warning/Ethiopia02092011.pdf.
[118] Ibid.
[119] Ibid.
[120] A/HRC/21/49, p. 14.
[121] UNHCR Operation in Ethiopia, Fact Sheet, October 2013, available from: http://www.unhcr.org/524d82ce9.html.
[122] UNHCR submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 3.
[123] Ibid., p. 4.
[124] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 13.
[125] UNHCR submission to the UPR on Ethiopia, p. 4.
[126] Ibid., p. 5.
[127] Ibid., p. 5.
[128] Ibid., p. 6.
[129] Ibid., p. 7.
[130] Ibid., p. 3.
[131] Ibid., p. 4.
[132] CCPR/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 14.
[133] Ibid., para. 15.
[134] CAT/C/ETH/CO/1, para. 14.
[135] Ibid., para. 20.
[136] A/HRC/19/44, p. 87.
[137] A/HRC/13/42.

[138] A/HRC/19/44, p. 105.
[139] A/HRC/20/30, p. 22.
[140] "Climate of intimidation against rights defenders and journalists in Ethiopia – Pillay, press release, 18 July 2012, available from: www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12365&LangID=E.